



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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An Old-Fashioned Christmas at Lincoln Log Cabin Dec. 7 *Explore era of changing Christmas traditions at holiday event*



LERNA, Ill. – Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site presents an Old-Fashioned Christmas holiday event on Saturday, December 7 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., with music and treats for the entire family.

The cabin's historic interpreters will discuss the ever-changing Christmas traditions during Abraham Lincoln's time and how the Greek bishop St. Nicholas came to be known as Santa Claus.

Meanwhile, the Lincoln Log Cabin Visitor's Center will feature music, snacks and family-friendly activities.

When Lincoln's father and stepmother lived at the cabin in the 1840s, Christmas celebrations were changing rapidly. For example, the Christmas tree was just making its way from Germany to Britain and the United States. "A Christmas Carol" had solidified the holiday's reputation as a time for family and friends. Contemporary Christmas cards and drawings in magazines such as *Harper's Weekly* were redefining how the holiday should look.

Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site, administered by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, is part of the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area. It re-creates the 19th century home of Thomas and Sarah Bush Lincoln, father and stepmother of the president. The site is eight miles south of Charleston and is open Wednesday through Sunday for free public tours.

For more information about the site and its programming, call 217-345-1845 or visit www.lincolnlogcabin.org. Follow the site on Facebook www.facebook.com/lincolnlogcabin.

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